

October 1 1999

DOE-2, BLAST and ENERGY-10 User Survey

The U.S. Department of Energy is supporting development of **EnergyPlus**, a new-generation building energy simulation program that combines the best features of DOE-2 and BLAST and adds other calculation capabilities. EnergyPlus is being developed by the University of Illinois, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, the U.S. Army Construction Engineering Research Laboratory, Oklahoma State University and others. EnergyPlus version 1.0 will be available in January 2001.

If you are a user of DOE-2, BLAST or ENERGY-10 we'd like your advice on what features not already in these programs you would like to see in future versions of EnergyPlus. (EnergyPlus will be of interest to ENERGY-10 users since it is planned to replace ENERGY-10's calculation engine with EnergyPlus).

We'd also like to know how you're currently using DOE-2, BLAST or ENERGY-10. The information you provide will help in our planning and program-design efforts to assure that the EnergyPlus engine meets your simulation needs.

So please take a few minutes to fill out the following questionnaire. We'd appreciate your response even if you participated in a similar survey done in 1995.

Please mail or fax your completed questionnaire by December 1, 1999 to:

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QUESTIONNAIRE

Individual responses will be kept confidential

Name (optional) _____

Organization _____

Address _____

Email _____

Type of organization (A/E, energy consultancy, university, government, etc.) _____

Size of organization (number of employees) _____

Your profession (architect, HVAC engineer, energy consultant, researcher, etc.) _____

Program (and Version) that you are using (DOE-2, BLAST or ENERGY-10) _____

(If you are using more than one of these Programs please fill out a separate questionnaire for each.)

Purpose for using Program

Required by client	Yes	No	Evaluate building envelope alternatives	Yes	No
Required by energy standard	Yes	No	Choose among HVAC equipment alternatives	Yes	No
Speed up design	Yes	No	Reduce energy use and/or cost	Yes	No
Provide confidence in design	Yes	No	Evaluate complex strategies	Yes	No
Size HVAC equipment	Yes	No	Increase company's competitiveness	Yes	No
Other					

Why you chose the Program? (accuracy? ease of use? well-known?) _____

Years using Program _____

Earliest stage of design process that you use the Program (Schematic design, Design development, After design is finished) _____

Principal things you like about the Program _____

Principal things you dislike about the Program or frustrations in using the program _____

Type of buildings analyzed (office, retail, school, residential, etc.) _____

Number of buildings and total floor area analyzed with program in LAST TWO YEARS

New buildings Number _____ Floor area _____

Existing buildings (retrofits) Number _____ Floor area _____

Number of buildings and total floor area analyzed with program TO DATE

New buildings Number _____ Floor area _____

Existing buildings (retrofits) Number _____ Floor area _____

Estimated range of predicted percent energy savings from using Program (e.g., 10-20%) _____

Names of some buildings on which you used the Program _____

Calculation features not in the Program that you'd like to see in EnergyPlus _____

Recommendations for improving usability of the Program _____

Other building energy and design tools you use _____

Other comments and suggestions _____

I want to become an EnergyPlus beta-tester YES NO

I want to become an EnergyPlus program developer YES NO

I want to receive the (free) quarterly newsletter, *Building Energy Simulation User News* YES NO
(requires your name and full mailing address on page 1)

Fax to 510-486-4089 -- Attn: Kathy Ellington